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wells under the accelerated scheme in the Salem district. The Southern Command was requested to spare 100 air compressors and the necessary personnel for the Salem district. The army could however spare only one air compressor unit. The unit arrived in Salem on 12th July 1946 but was awaiting the receipt of compressors and other necessary materials. It should have begun work by now.

"The feasibility of large-scale digging of wells by the army is under examination by the Government.

"(b) The unit could have commenced work only after 12th July 1946. Up to 17th August 1946 it had sunk seven wells and was working at twelve more wells.

"It is expected that the cost of the operations by the army will be about Rs. 300 per well and may exceed it in some cases. The army will do only the blasting work. The owner of the well will have to attend to the rest of the work.

"(c) The question does not arise."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"In view of the difficulty of securing water in the Rayalaseema districts, will the Government consider the desirability of extending the assistance of the Military in sinking wells to the Bellary and Anantapur districts?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"The experiment is just being tried in the Salem district. If it is found successful in that district, it may be extended to other districts."

Sinking of wells in Rayalaseema.

* 34 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the contribution given by the Government of India and the Provincial Government for the sinking of wells in the districts of Rayalaseema from 1st April 1939 to 31st March 1946;

(*b*) how many wells have been sunk in each district during the period and at what cost;

(*c*) how much money has been allowed to lapse in each district in each year; and

(*d*) the reasons as to why the wells were not sunk and the contributions were allowed to lapse?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"(*a*) Before 1944 there was no scheme for the grant of subsidies for sinking wells in the Rayalaseema districts. On 31st March 1946, two schemes were in force in those districts. The first scheme is that introduced in 1944 under which a subsidy of 25 per cent of the cost of the well, subject to a maximum of Rs. 310 per well was granted. The second is the accelerated scheme which was introduced in February 1946. Under this scheme, the subsidy payable was 50 per cent of the cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 310. The amount of subsidy sanctioned for new wells under both the schemes from the date of their

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commencement up to the 31st March 1946 in each of the districts of Rayalaseema is given below :—

	First scheme (25 per cent subsidy).	Second scheme (accelerated scheme).
	RS.	RS.
Anantapur	25,910	3,535
Bellary	3,115	3,850
Cuddapah	9,550	2,790
Kurnool	65,780	8,390
Chittoor	Nil.	77,925

" Under the first scheme, two-fifths of the expenditure on subsidy is met by the Government of India and three-fifths by the Provincial Government. In the case of the accelerated scheme, the Government of India have agreed in principle to bear half the expenditure on subsidy. Their final reply in the matter is awaited.

" (*b*) The number of wells sunk under the first scheme up to the 31st March 1946 is given below :—

Anantapur	11
Bellary	Nil.
Cuddapah	7
Kurnool	40
Chittoor	Nil.

" There is no information with the Government about the actual cost of these wells. A report has been called for from the Board of Revenue in the matter.

" No wells were completed under the second (accelerated) scheme up to the 31st March 1946 in any of the five districts.

" (*c*) Under the first scheme, certain amounts were allotted for each district for being disbursed as subsidies so long as the scheme was in force. No annual allotments were made. The amount not spent in the first year out of the total allotment was carried over to the second year, the amount unspent in the second year was carried over to the third year, and so on. There was thus no question of lapse of the sanctioned allotment.

" Under the second scheme, namely, the accelerated scheme, no specific amount was sanctioned for each district. Only a lump-sum provision was made in the budget for the entire scheme, with reference to the estimate submitted by the Board of Revenue.

" (*d*) No well was completed in the Bellary district up to 31st March 1946 under the 25 per cent subsidy scheme, as against the subsidy of Rs. 3,115 sanctioned. The reason for this is being ascertained from the Board of Revenue. In the Chittoor district no subsidy was sanctioned up to 31st March 1946.

" No wells could be completed under the accelerated scheme up to 31st March 1946 as the scheme was introduced late in February 1946 and it actually commenced working in March 1946.

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"The question of lapse of contributions towards subsidy does not arise."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, whether the scheme of giving grants for the construction of wells will be continued even in the year 1947?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"There is a scheme which is now under contemplation by the Government to extend the subsidy to the next year also, but it has not been finally sanctioned yet."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"In view of the poor achievement in the number of wells sunk in the Ceded districts, as furnished in the answer to clause (*b*) of the question, will the Hon. the Minister find out from the Board of Revenue, why they have not been able to sink more wells?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"If I may say so, Sir, it may be probably due to the fact that there has not been sufficient publicity in the matter. Even now, I find that only a few people have taken interest in the matter. When more publicity is given, I expect more people will come forward and more wells will be sunk."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I point out, Sir, that the slow progress in sinking wells is also due to the fact that the subsidy given to the people in these backward and economically poor tracts, is not enough inducement for them to take to digging of wells?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"So far as the Ceded districts are concerned, I may say that the subsidy for each well has been increased from Rs. 310 to Rs. 500 in the current year. It is not possible for the Government to give more, because the finances are limited and the schemes are for the whole province."

Irrigation schemes in Rayalaseema.

* 35 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to place on the Table of the House the list of irrigation schemes in Rayalaseema and state—

(*a*) which of them have been completed;

(*b*) which of them have been investigated and ready for execution;

(*c*) which of them are still under consideration and scrutiny;

(*d*) which of them are proposed for investigation; and

(*e*) which of them were investigated and dropped?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTHAVATHSALAM :—"Six lists containing all the particulars are appended." [a]

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Public Works, whether in respect of schemes mentioned in List VI which were investigated and dropped, they were

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 301–305 infra.